

INTELLOFAX 20

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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~~INTELLIGENCE REPORT~~

COUNTRY Spain

DATE: 25X1A6a

INFO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Suspected Communist Infiltration of Spanish
Government Departments

DIST. 10 November 1947

PAGES

ORIGIN Spain, Madrid

SUPPLEMENT

25X1X6

1. As of 2 October 1947 the DGS and the Information Services of the Army were undertaking an exhaustive investigation to discover the source of a telegram sent at the end of September to authorities in Zaragoza. The telegram, which followed the prescribed form, ordered the pardon of Pascual Cano and other alleged Communists who had been condemned to death in the Zaragoza capital. The order was issued in the name of General Franco. When the customary confirmation was not received, the Zaragoza authorities checked with the Ministry of the Army and found that the telegram was a forgery. The matter caused considerable alarm in Madrid as well as in Zaragoza, since a case of this sort could occur only with the collaboration of high officials of the Army, the form for such telegrams being available to a very limited number of persons. 25X1X6

[REDACTED] details concerning the case of the brother of the Under Secretary of Justice, Isidro de Arcenegui Carmona.* He was arrested about the first of July but was freed three days later on orders of the Chief (Jefe Superior) of Police, Ledesma. According to the informant, proof had been obtained that Arcenegui was the leader of the Communist military set-up in Madrid. Accordingly suspicion as to the loyalty of Ledesma was widespread and was shared even by the Director General, although lack of concrete evidence made procedure against Ledesma difficult. Reportedly, statements made by Communists arrested later confirmed the suspicion that Arcenegui was the leader of the Communist military organization.

25X1A6a [REDACTED] Comment: The reference probably is to Jose Arcenegui, who has had difficulty with the police before. As reported in A-67886, he was arrested on 10 April 1946. According to La Prensa of 13 June 1946, he was acquitted of the charge of having conspired to reestablish the republican army.

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